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**From:** Wahlstrom-Ramler, Meghan [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=6E06B0D240D84CA59788C6C431758DE2-WAHLSTROM-R]  
**Sent:** 11/26/2019 8:45:45 PM  
**To:** R4NPDES.Kampachi@epa.gov  
**Subject:** FW: Public Notice: 19FL00001

**Meghan Wahlstrom** | Environmental Engineer | Permitting & Grants Branch | Water Division  
Special Emphasis Program Manager for the Federal Women's Employment Program (FWP)  
Region 4 | Atlanta Federal Center | 61 Forsyth Street SW | Atlanta, GA 30303-8960  
(404) 562-9672 | Wahlstrom-ramler.meghan@epa.gov

**From:** Ricky Alexander <ralexander@cfarm.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 20, 2019 12:10 PM  
**To:** Wahlstrom-Ramler, Meghan <Wahlstrom-Ramler.Meghan@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Public Notice: 19FL00001

Hello.

My name is Ricky Alexander, and I am writing in support of Public Notice 19VL00001, Draft National Pollution Discharge Elimination System Permit – Kampachi Farms, LLC - Velella Epsilon. This type of work is important, and I do not think an operation of this scale will have much impact on the surrounding ecosystem. Similarly, I think this operation would be small enough that it would not impact other ocean users. However, going forward, it will be very important to keep scale and the effects of offshore aquaculture on other ocean users in mind when making decisions on whether or not to permit these types of activities. Offshore aquaculture operations can minimize many of the negative consequences associated with nearshore or aquatic farming operations, due in large part to strong currents and the ability of the ocean to utilize resulting nutrients from culture operations, given an appropriate scale and appropriate spacing. Therefore, I think it is important to conduct small pilot-scale operations such as the proposed project to gauge the impact these operations would have in a real-world setting. In future studies, farmers/researchers should consider a polyculture operation involving some sort of detritivore to mitigate effluent from fish cages.

Respectfully,

-Ricky Alexander

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Ricky Alexander  
Fisheries Biologist  
Coonamessett Farm Foundation  
277 Hatchville Road  
East Falmouth, MA 02536  
9784911902